

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

SATO et al

Atty. Ref.: 380-42; Confirmation No.

Div. of Appl. No. 10/093,508

Group:

Filed: October 2, 2003

Examiner:

For: ELUENT FOR ION CHROMATOGRAPHY FOR MEASURING ALKALINE  
EARTH METAL IONS, AND METHOD FOR ANALYZING ALKALINE EARTH  
METAL IONS, EMPLOYING IT

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October 2, 2003

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

In order to place the above-identified application in better condition for  
examination, please amend the application as follows: